

# Winter Recreation Opportunities

This map describes winter travel opportunities during the snow season. It takes effect when local conditions prevent travel on roads and trails by wheeled vehicles. If wheeled or snow-machine vehicles cause unacceptable impacts to forest resources, a Special Order may be issued to eliminate the conflict.

Where winter trail grooming has begun on winter-designated routes, wheeled vehicles will be restricted to plowed roads. Cross-country snow-machine travel is permitted from the beginning of the snow season through June 1, except where specifically prohibited by Management Prescription. The beginning date of the "SNOW SEASON" will be declared by the District Ranger.

Additional closures or restrictions may be made at any time for resource protection or public safety. To avoid inconvenience, visitors are encouraged to contact local Ranger District offices for current travel information.

The definition of unacceptable impacts means "cutting of the road, trail, or other surfaces by any type of vehicle traveling during wet or muddy conditions, damaging any type of fish or wildlife habitat, or harassing any wildlife." Rutting causes deterioration of road surfaces, increases road maintenance costs, aids soil erosion, and can reduce water quality.

The area is endowed with plenty of snow, outstanding scenery and hundreds of miles of groomed and marked trails. Snowmobile trails are groomed on a regular basis by trail groomers operated by the counties. Cross-country ski trails are maintained by the District and Harriman State Park. Cross-country ski trails are closed to snowmobile use. Park 'N' Ski permits are required at parking areas with groomed cross-country ski trails. Snowmobile trails and roads that are plowed are subject to change at any time. Please obtain a current year map for the most up-to-date information. Information on trail conditions or winter recreation opportunities can be obtained from local National Forest Service Offices.

## KEY TO RECREATION SYMBOLS

- Parking Areas
- Warming Shelter/Parking
- Trailhead
- Rental Cabin

## TRAVEL MAP LEGEND

- Lands administered by Caribou-Targhee National Forests
- Other lands not covered by this Travel Map

NOTE: See County snowmobile map for details.

## WINTER RANGE

This area is used by various wildlife species—specifically deer, elk, and moose—during the winter months. The area is critical to the survival of these animals during the winter. Observe the restrictions shown in the "WINTER CROSS-COUNTRY USE" and the "WINTER DESIGNATED ROUTES" matrices to help insure the best possible chance for wildlife survival during the winter period.

## EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS

- TO REPORT A FOREST FIRE**
- Caribou: Targhee National Forests, (208) 524-7600 OR 1-800-438-6160
  - SHERIFF
  - Clark County, ID: (208) 374-5403
  - Bonne County, ID: (208) 327-6553
  - Fremont County, ID: (208) 624-4482
  - Lemhi County, ID: (208) 756-4201
  - Madison County, ID: (208) 359-3000
  - Bonneville County, ID: (208) 529-1310
  - Teton County, ID: (208) 354-2223
  - Lincoln County, WY: (307) 886-5231
  - Teton County, WY: (307) 733-2331

## REGULATIONS DISPLAYED ON THIS MAP APPLY UNLESS MARKED ON THE GROUND. FOR INFORMATION REGARDING TRAVEL REGULATIONS ON ROADS OUTSIDE THE CARIBOU-TARGHEE NATIONAL FORESTS' JURISDICTION, CONTACT THE APPROPRIATE STATE OR COUNTY OFFICE.

## WINTER SURVIVAL KIT

- Extra food
- First aid kit
- Candles and flashlight
- Map, compass and whistle
- Space blanket
- Matches, knife, wire, metal container
- Cell phone

## PARK 'N' SKI LOTS

STATE LAW 49-3104 REGARDING THE USE OF PARK 'N' SKI LOTS

49-3104. Parking Permit - Fee - Fees - Permits for Snowmobile Owners' Exemptions

- (1) Except as hereinafter provided, no person shall, from November 15 of any year to April 30 of the next year, park a vehicle in a winter recreational parking location unless the vehicle displays a parking permit. The permit shall be permanently affixed on the side window of the vehicle nearest the driver's seat in such a manner that it is completely visible and shall be kept in a legible condition at all times.
- (2) A fee shall be charged for each permit.
- (3) Any violation of the provisions of this section shall be a misdemeanor and be subject to a fine.
- (4) All snowmobile owners shall, concurrently with the receipt of a certificate of number as provided in section 49-2605, Idaho Code, receive from the department a parking permit as established by this chapter at no cost. Snowmobile owners holding unexpired certificates of number issued prior to the date on which permits become available may obtain a permit at no cost upon presentation of the certificate to the department provided however, that the certificate will require the presentation of suitable identification to verify that the certificate was issued to the person requesting the permit.

## ATTENTION SNOWMOBILERS

Idaho and Wyoming State law prohibits the use of snowmobiles on public and National Forest roads which are plowed and maintained for use by four-wheeled vehicles.

### OBAY THE LAWS AND REGULATIONS

PURCHASE SNOWMOBILE REGISTRATIONS. State law requires snowmobile registrations on all snowmobiles. Registrations are available at local vendors. Off-trail travel can be hazardous due to barbed wire fences, creek crossings, and rocks. Know and respect Wilderness boundaries and regulations as well as private property boundaries.

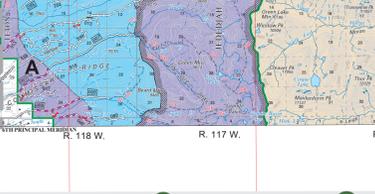
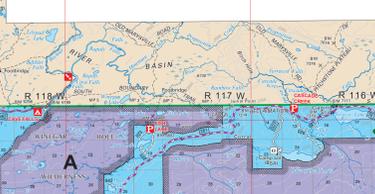
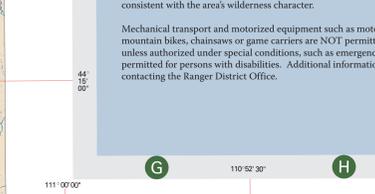
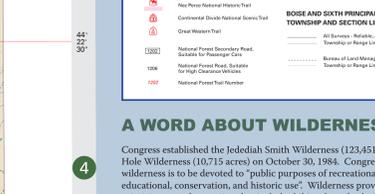
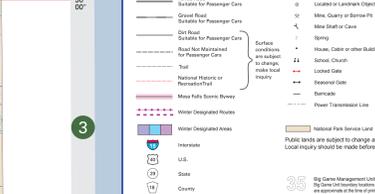
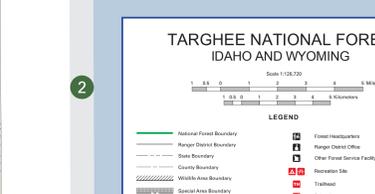
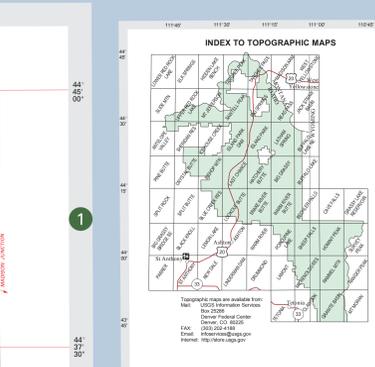
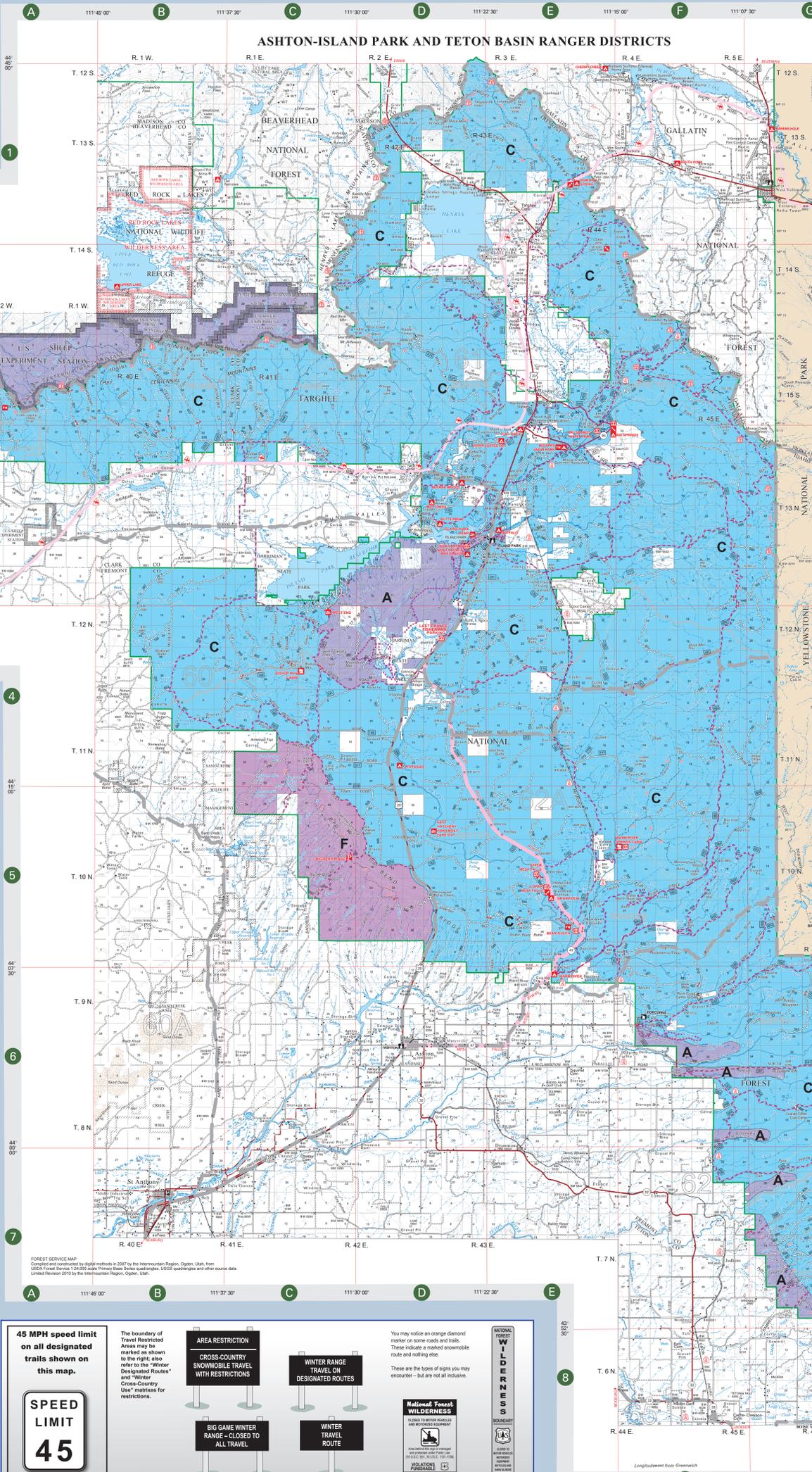
### BE COURTEOUS AND RESPECTFUL OF OTHERS

Winter trails are used by a wide range of visitors. Be considerate of visitors. Not only will this help ensure a tranquil, safe environment to enjoy the Forest, it also helps protect natural resources. Here's how you can do your part:

- Be friendly and tolerant of other forms of recreation. Communicate, don't confront. Be an ambassador for your own user group.
- Take the time to find out about other user's needs.
- Consider others when parking. Don't block turn-around or trail accesses.

## RESPECT OUR NATURAL RESOURCES

- Do not snowmobile over the tops of small trees. This damages the growing portion of the tree.
- Wildlife is important to everyone. Respect winter range closures. Always give wildlife space.
- Help preserve the beauty of the area by remembering to pack out everything you bring in.

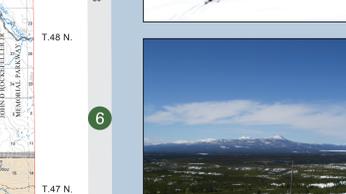
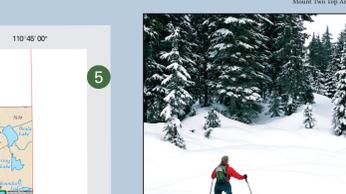


## NORDIC TRAIL INFORMATION

- FALL RIVER RIDGE TRAIL SYSTEM**  
Located at the Forest boundary approximately 12 miles east of Ashton. The trail system includes loops of various lengths from two to six miles and has terrain for all types of skier abilities. This trailhead requires a Park-N-Ski permit.
- BRIMSTONE TRAIL SYSTEM**  
The trailhead is near Ponds Lodge. This system is composed of four main loops. The terrain varies from gentle easy grades along the Buffalo River to downhill runs through groves of trees in the Thurmon Ridge area. Scenic views of the river, Box Canyon along the Henry's Fork, and Island Park Reservoir can be seen on the 9.5 mile trail. This trailhead requires a Park-N-Ski permit.
- BUFFALO TRAIL**  
The trail begins at the Island Park Ranger Station. This trail winds eastward on the south bank of the Buffalo River to Tom's Canyon. It then leaves the river and goes west through lodgepole pine forests back to the ranger station. It is 2.6 miles long and offers views of the river and associated wildlife. This trailhead requires a Park-N-Ski permit.
- BEAR GULCH - MESA FALLS TRAIL**  
The trail begins and ends at the Bear Gulch Trailhead. It is a six mile loop following relatively flat terrain. The trail follows the rim of the canyon for about three miles and overlooks the Henry's Fork of the Snake River. At Grandview Overlook with breathtaking views of Lower Mesa Falls the trail swings back along the Mesa Falls Scenic Byway trail (shared with snowmobiles) to the trailhead. At Grandview Overlook a spur trail about two miles long goes to Upper Mesa Falls (also along the Scenic Byway) and along the same route. This trailhead requires a Park-N-Ski permit.
- HARRIMAN STATE PARK TRAIL SYSTEM**  
Ski trails begin at the park's headquarters building and extend 20 miles into the Harriman Wildlife Refuge. Seven loops of various levels of difficulty are marked with blue diamonds. The Harriman Recreation Trail is 12 miles long (one way) and goes to the Brimstone Trailhead near Ponds Lodge. This trailhead requires a Park-N-Ski permit. You will need to purchase a pass from Harriman State Park to use their trails.

## POINTS OF INTEREST

- TWO TOP, E-2** One of the most spectacular winter scenic areas in the region. Two top overlooks the entire Island Park area. It is a snowmobilers favorite near the Continental Divide.
- UPPER MESA FALLS, E-5** The Falls are 114 feet high. Trails and viewing platforms were built in 1995. Big Falls Inn, constructed some time after 1904—was restored in 1999. It is now open to the public as an interpretive center.
- LOWER MESA FALLS, E-5** The Lower Falls, one mile south of the Upper Falls, features the Grandview overlook built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s. There is a spectacular view of the 65-foot high multi-terraced falls.
- BIG SPRINGS, E-3** Unique springs and headwaters of the Henry's Fork of the Snake River. Large rainbow trout can be seen year round. Constant temperature of 52 degrees and a constant flow of 148 cubic feet per second. Located five miles east of Mack's Inn.



The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, and where applicable, age, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, or ancestry. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

**45 MPH speed limit on all designated trails shown on this map.**

**SPEED LIMIT 45**

**NATIONAL FOREST WILDERNESS**

You may notice an orange diamond marker on some roads and trails. These indicate a marked snowmobile route and routing area. These are the types of areas you may encounter—but are not included.

**Trail boundary of Travel Restricted Areas may be marked as shown to the right—also refer to the "Winter Designated Routes" and "Winter Cross-Country Use" matrices for restrictions.**

**AREA RESTRICTION CROSS-COUNTRY SNOWMOBILE TRAVEL WITH RESTRICTIONS**

**WINTER RANGE TRAVEL ON DESIGNATED ROUTES**

**BIG GAME WINTER RANGE—CLOSED TO ALL TRAVEL**

**WINTER TRAVEL ROUTE**

**Violations Penalties:**  
CROSS-COUNTRY SNOWMOBILE TRAVEL WITH RESTRICTIONS: \$100  
WINTER RANGE TRAVEL ON DESIGNATED ROUTES: \$100  
BIG GAME WINTER RANGE—CLOSED TO ALL TRAVEL: \$100  
WINTER TRAVEL ROUTE: \$100